



Orchard Manor School News

The Apple Press Orchard Manor School Updates and Communications

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"The only way to do great work is to love what you do"

Steve Jobs

Hello everyone!

What a glorious day full of sunshine and a lovely way to end the week.

As you may remember, we had an Ofsted inspection on Tuesday and Wednesday. They were rigorous in checking the quality of education and the personal development offer at Orchard Manor. We took great pride in sharing how far we have come as a school and how our children thrive as a result of the opportunities that they have. It seemed to go very well but we will not have confirmation until the results are posted in 30 days. Of course, we will send you the results as soon as we have them.



I would like to thank all of the staff who were amazing during the inspection — we really do have a truly fantastic team here, and they shone in their knowledge of the children and the work we do with them. Thank you too, to all of the children who spoke to the Inspectors. In addition, I would like to thank all of you, our student Parents and Carers, who took the time to fill in the Parent View Questionnaire that was sent out on Ofsted's behalf. We all did our very best and now, we just have to wait.

Last week we had a number of parents come in for training and information mornings. The first one was the Devon's popular Autism and Us programme, a four-week course offering support for families of children and young people who have an Autism diagnosis, or who are waiting for one. The Autism and Us Programme is tailored for parents or carers of primary and secondary school children in Devon. Its primary objective is to enhance participants' understanding of autism while offering practical solutions for managing and supporting the unique needs of children and young people on the autism spectrum. Beyond the educational component, the program also creates a platform for parents and carers to connect with others facing similar situations. The first of the four sessions covered An Introduction to Autism and will be followed with the essential topics of Autism and Communication, Understanding and Supporting Behaviour and Autism and Sensory Processing.



The sign for Home

We also had a Communication Coffee Morning led by Josie Parkin and our SALT Team. They put together a wonderful communication workshop for parents so that they could come and learn some simple Makaton and other communication strategies, hints and tips to help speak to their children in the same language they

are taught at school. Josie, Chris Mahbouby and Helen Green from (SPT) presented the various topics with lots of interaction from the parents. They were given plenty of resources—visuals, widgets and now-and-next boards—to take away with them. It was a fun morning, lots of laughter and they finished off with a chance to chat to other parents and enjoy a coffee and cake.



The sign for Friends

It's been a full two weeks and I expect everyone is looking forward to a restful weekend. Thanks again to everyone this week! *Nicola Jones, Headteacher*